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PROGRAM Legislative Hearing:
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DISCUSS CIAGUEST: U.S. Representative James R. Grover (R., Suffolk)
U.S. Representative Lester L. Wolff (D., Nassau)REPORTERS: WCBS-TV News Correspondent Mort Dean
WCBS-TV News Correspondent Tom Dunn
CPYRGHT WCBS-TV News Correspondent Dick Lobo

LOBO: "It appears quite certain at this sitting that the -- any plans for a congressional investigation into the CIA and the use of the CIA funds will go unheeded. Do you believe that an investigation into how the CIA uses its money is necessary in this session?"

WOLFF: "I particularly do. I don't know how my colleague feels about it but I do. I think they acted out of the scope of the mandate that they were originally given in going into domestic activities, just the same way that we barred the U.S.I.A. and the U.S.I.S. from going into propaganda within the United States. And I think there should be a thorough going investigation of the CIA."

LOBO: "Why do you think that what they did was wrong?"

WOLFF: "Well, because of the fact, I feel, that they were involved in domestic affairs. And their mandate is not domestic affairs. If any thing, their mandate is in the area of espionage that is needed for our nation. But when they get involved in a thought police type of campaign, I think that they are acting out of the scope of their authority and will lead us into an area where we will re-establish the gestapo and things of that sort."

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LOBO: "Do you think that they entered into this activity with the consent of the executive branch?"

WOLFF: "They must have."

LOBO: "I think it's an indicator that four presidents knew that this type activity was being undertaken. But I disagree with Lester in this regard.

"I think that a much broader mandate must be given to a central Intelligence authority and it's not just to encourage espionage abroad. But it's also to counteract it because their one and the same parcel. You have to counteract it at home if you're going to have an effective counter-espionage and espionage...."

WOLFF: "Then what you're looking for is not a Central Intelligence Agency but you're looking for a Central Intelligent Agency. You're not looking for someone to gather information but to disseminate it."

GROVER: "Well, I--there's, of course, a very fine line between a centralized propaganda organ and a centralized intelligence agency. And I think there is room for caution in this area. But I think I'm satisfied with the approach of the leaders in both the House and Senate who now indicate that they don't think that at this time a sweeping investigation is necessary."

WOLFF: "Well, I'm somewhat of a maverick and I don't believe that we need thought police in this country."

DEAN: "Congressman Grover, do you believe that the CIA did act properly in providing public funds to educational groups, groups of students?"

GROVER: "I think that, within the confines of what they -- what activity certain persons within these groups were doing, they did. Now, I don't think that there should be any willy-nilly, spurious spray of dollars at organizations, and just hoping that they will cooperate with us in some respect. But I'm sure, and I have confidence, that the Central Intelligence authority had -- wasn't going in with buckshot, a shotgun; they were going in with

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rifleshots, and they were being very selective in the areas of their investigation."

WOLFF: "Well, who determines this? Are we going to leave the determination to a select group of men who determine who shall be supported and who shall not be supported in student movements? One of the big criticisms that was leveled by a number of people against the federal aid to education was the fact that there would be injected particular thinking into the education act; and we would start to control education. You're not controlling education here; you're controlling the kids who are the beneficiaries of the education."

DEAN: "It has been said, and I'd like your comment on this, Congressman Grover, that the involvement of the CIA in this student organization severely damages the use of the CIA overseas to some respect, and also questions the credibility of any number of American organizations working in the various nations around the world. Do you agree with that?"

GROVER: "I am just reminded of the cartoon I saw the other day of a beatnik sitting on the steps of one of our universities, strumming a guitar, whispering to a young lady, 'I'm a CIA agent', or something like that. I don't know, I can't give a direct and properly evaluative answer of that question; but I'm confident that our leadership, and incidentally, this goes right on down from the very top in the administration, have their finger on the pulse of this situation, and will control it in the best interests of the country."

WOLFF: "Excuse me for saying so, I don't think, and regardless of political party here involved, I don't think that we have our finger on the situation, and I think that much needs to be done about this, because I do not want to see the CIA injecting itself into either local matters or matters that are outside the domain of acquiring information that's necessary to the defense of this nation."

DEAN: "Of course, the counter argument is that the Russian secret police and propaganda agencies are intimately involved in

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the Russian student organizations, promoting communism at the various youth festivals around the world."

WOLFF: "If I was interested in the Russian system, I'd go to Russia. I'm here in the United States, and I'm interested in maintaining the democracy that we have, and the freedoms that we have."